Hoshikuzuu SCANS

Season 01

ASOU MITSUAKI

SCANNER
Hoshi

TRANSLATOR
Hoshi

CLEANER
Hoshi

TYPESETTER
Gokuaoi

PROOFREADER
Sashimi

QUALITY CHECKER
Hoshi

SEASON

麻生ミツ晃

Mitsuaki Asou

H&C Comics
ihr HertZ Series

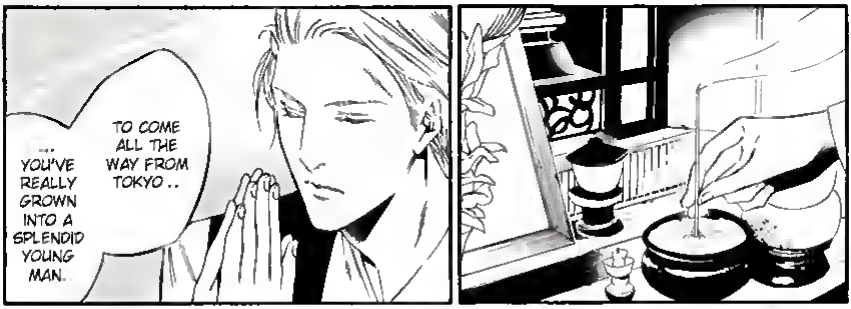
Saki Hara 005
Tokeru Fuyu 069
Musubu Yuki 133
Meguru Fuyu 189
Afterword 203

咲く春
Saku Haru
―前編―
―Part 1―

Due to the recession and the westernization of Japan,
The demand for kimonos—especially those with high-quality cloth—has gone down.
Despite that, my stubborn father would not lower the prices or quality of our products.
In the end, we had to abandon the store and our home.
In spite of all that, he took us with him and began peddling.
ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS, AZUMA-SAN?
YES
He must have loved selling things.

WHAT SORT OF JOB DO YOU THINK WILL HIRE SOMEONE YOUR AGE?
IF YOU WORK HARD IN YOUR STUDIES, YOU CAN EVEN GO TO UNIVERSITY.
I CAN'T STAND SEEING YOU DOING ALL THIS BY YOURSELF ANYMORE.
I WILL LEAVE SCHOOL AND BEGIN WORKING.
I'LL ANSWER IT.
HELLO?
CHILDREN SHOULD NOT MIND THESE-
cough
cough
I'M ALREADY SEVENTEEN.

..
YOUNG MASTER?


... YOU'VE REALLY GROWN INTO A SPLENDID YOUNG MAN.
TO COME ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO ..

IT IS NOTHING LIKE YOUR HUSBAND'S, AND IS ONLY MONEY I HAVE RECEIVED FROM HUMBLE TRADING HERE AND THERE.
BUT MONEY IS MONEY.
I WILL LEND YOU SOME MONEY
..
MISTRESS.
IT IS ALREADY LATE. OUR PLACE MAY BE SMALL, BUT PLEASE STAY THE NIGHT.

PLEASE.
PLEASE.
GIVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO PAY BACK THE GRACIOUSNESS I HAVE RECEIVED HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
LET ME TELL YOU THIS.
WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A SINGLE YARD OF TANMONO* OR HAREGI* LEFT.
YAGG BASTAH.
DON'T TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL!
AND STOP CALLING ME THAT!

(T/N: 'TANMONO' IS THE CLOTH USED TO MAKE KIMONOS. WHILE 'HAREGI' IS A TYPE OF KIMONO WORN FOR FESTIVITIES.)

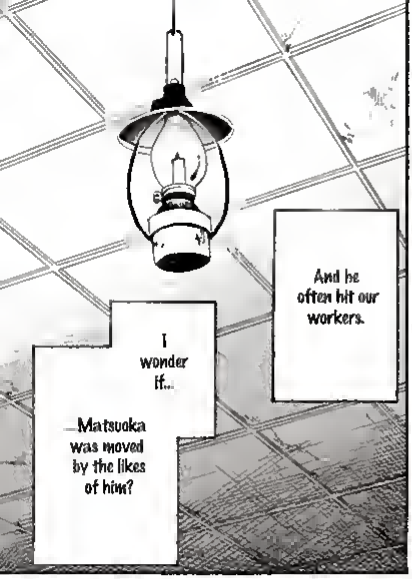
AND BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T WANT TO GET CAUGHT UP IN OUR DEBT, NOT EVEN OUR RELATIVES CAME TO THE FUNERAL
FOR SOMEONE WHO'S WORKED HERE FOR SO LONG, INSTEAD OF TAKING YOUR SALARY, YOU TOOK A BOWL AND RAN AWAY
AND... I DON'T REMEMBER YOU
...
AND YET YOU LEFT IMMEDIATELY FOR ANOTHER WORKPLACE... THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID, ISN'T IT?
JUST BECAUSE YOU WORKED FOR US FOR MANY YEARS.
BUT I'M NOT GIVING YOU ANYTHING!
ANYWAY,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING,
IT IS NOT GOOD TO EAVESDROP.
!
MY ROOM'S RIGHT NEXT TO IT. I OVERHEARD IT!
?
THEN HOW ABOUT I TAKE THIS FLOWER?
I'M BEING SERIOUS HERE!

YOUNG MASTER
A STORE LOOKS AT THINGS FROM A BUYER STAND POINT...
AND IT IS THE PERSON WHO PAYS THAT DETERMINES THE COST OF SOMETHING
AND I...
...RECEIVED SOMETHING HERE OF SUCH GREAT VALUE THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RETURN.
DO YOU...
...HATE MONOKA*?

(T/N: A JAPANESE WAFER FILLED WITH RED BEAN PASTE)

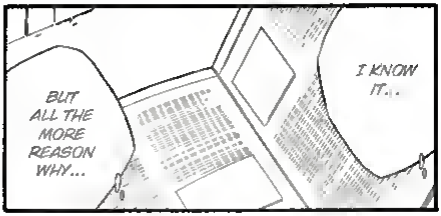
That man was called Matsuoka.
I LOVE THEM.
...
By not handing us cash,
it made my mother and I feel less guilty.
After that, he would ask us how we were doing.
Every two months,
Matsuoka would come to make payments for our store.
And...
HELLO?
And the neighborhood stores would bring us things on behalf of Matsuoka.

MATSU-OKA.
WOW! LOOKS LIKE YOUR GRADES HAVE GONE UP.
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU THAT I COULD GO ONTO MY THIRD YEAR
YOU COULD CONTINUE WITH UNI-VERSITY.
I THINK IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO STUDY.
IT'S MY REPORT CARD.
THERE'S A SEAL OF COM-PLETION ON THE BOTTOM.
AND I TOLD YOU THIS BEFORE.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
I AM JUST RETURNING THE FAVOR.
MATSU-OKA.
YEAH?
WHAT SORT OF FLOWERS DO YOU LIKE?
...

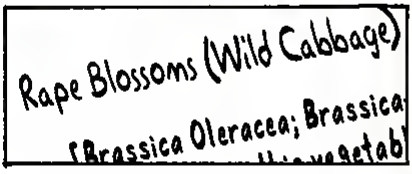

I wonder if... Matsuoka was moved by the likes of him?
And he often hit our workers.

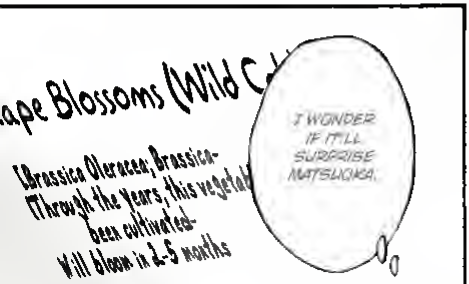
My father had a short temper and violent tendencies.

THAT'S A SUDDEN QUESTION
YOU'RE SCARING ME
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE JUST TELL ME!


BUT ALL THE MORE REASON WHY...
I KNOW IT...

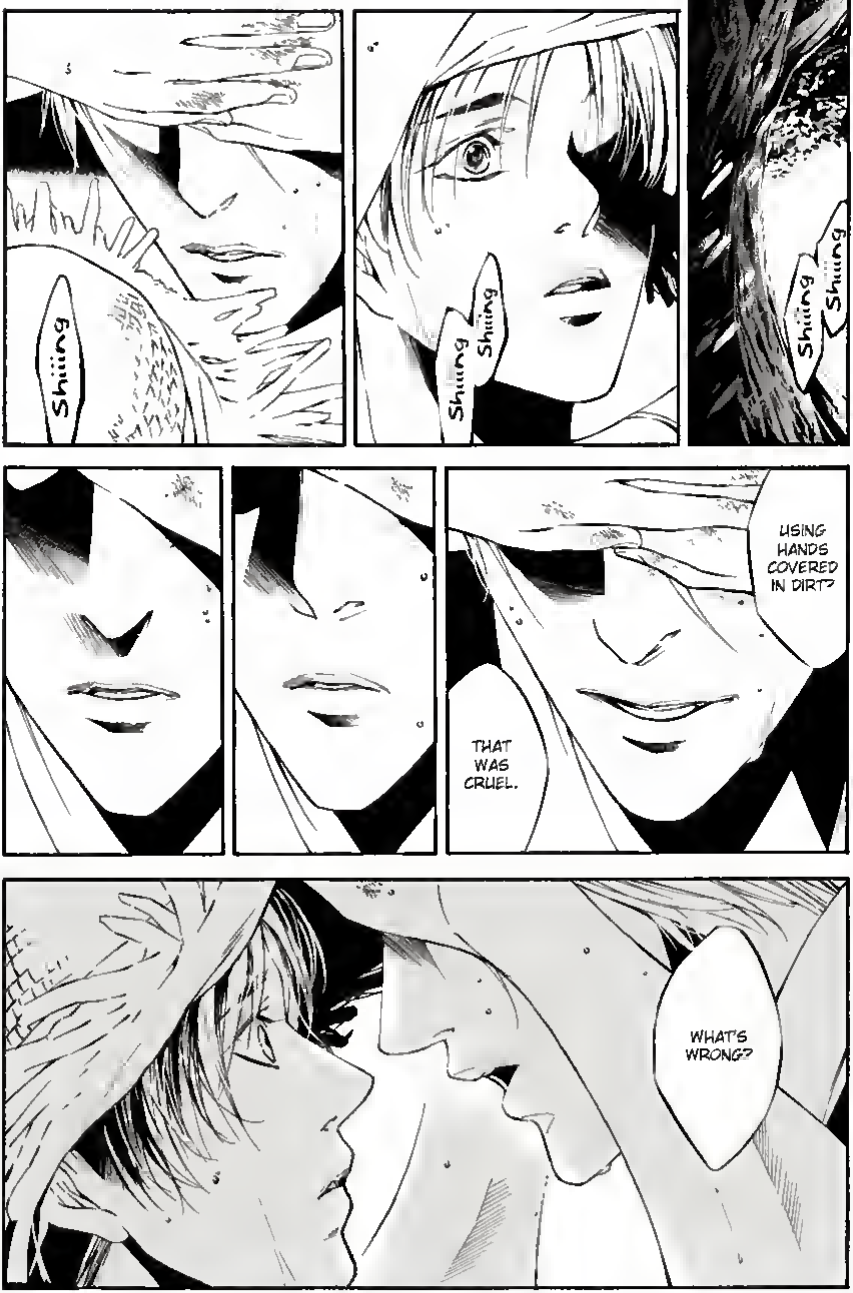
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY REASON FOR ME...
TO NOT BE THANKFUL TO MATSUOKA


Rape Blossoms (Wild Cabbage)
[Brassica Oleracea; Brassica


ape Blossoms (Wild C
[Brassica Oleracea; Brassica-
Through the years, this vegetab
been cultivated-
Will bloom in 2-5 months
I WONDER IF IT'LL SURPRISE MATSUOKA.

PULLING OUT THE WEEDS?
MATSU-OKA?!
IS THIS LIKE A LITTLE HOMEGROWN GARDEN?
shuuu
shuuu
shuuu
BUT REALLY IT SURE IS HOT
WHY ARE YOU HERE? IT'S NOT TIME YET
I HAD SOME WORK NEARBY.
A thick arm. Unlike mine.
And a large body.

!
No thanks!
...
How about I help?
!
Don't look!


Shiiing
Shiiing
Shiiing
Shiiing
Shiiing
USING HANDS COVERED IN DIRT?
THAT WAS CRUEL.
WHAT'S WRONG?

MATSU-OKA!
EVEN THAT'S A BIT...
IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO LOOK, I'LL REMOVE MY HANDS.
I UNDER-STAND.
EXCUSE ME
OH MY! WHAT HAP-PENED FOR YOU TO BE COVERED IN DIRT?
EXCUSE ME
!

slide
OH...
IT'S GOTTEN QUITE BAD LATELY...
ABOUT THIS MONTH'S MEDICINE. HOW IS YOUR COUGH?
*Ten Flook

IT'S QUITE COLD TODAY
IT SEEMS LIKE THIS PLACE WILL HAVE SNOW TONIGHT
MATSUOKA?!
WELCOME BACK.

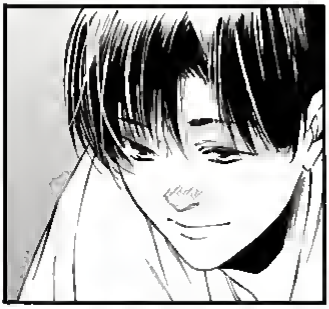
AZUMA-SAN! SHOULDN'T YOU BE SAYING "I'M BACK"?
IF YOU DIDN'T INDICATE YOUR COMING HOME,
AT LEAST GIVE A PROPER GREETING—
IT'S ALRIGHT IF I DON'T SAY IT ANYMORE NOW
...
YEAH.
OH RIGHT. YOUNG MASTER ...
CAN YOU PLEASE STOP CALLING ME THAT?
THESE ARE YOUR ROBES.

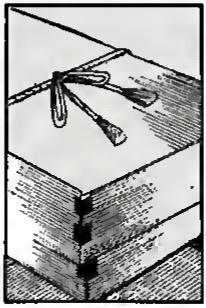
THERE'S YOUR GRADUATION CEREMONY IN THE SPRING,
THIS FEELING...
I CONSULTED WITH THE MISTRESS,
AND WE DECIDED IT WOULD BE GOOD TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE SET.
YOU'RE JUST RETURNING WHAT YOU BORROWED, HUH..?
I HAD NOT ENTERTAINED ANY THOUGHTS OF GRADUATING
BEFORE YOU CAME LAST WINTER,
WHAT?
...THANK YOU
CORRECT.

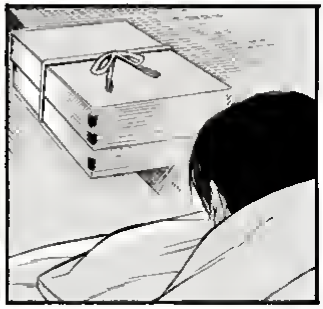
IT'S COLD

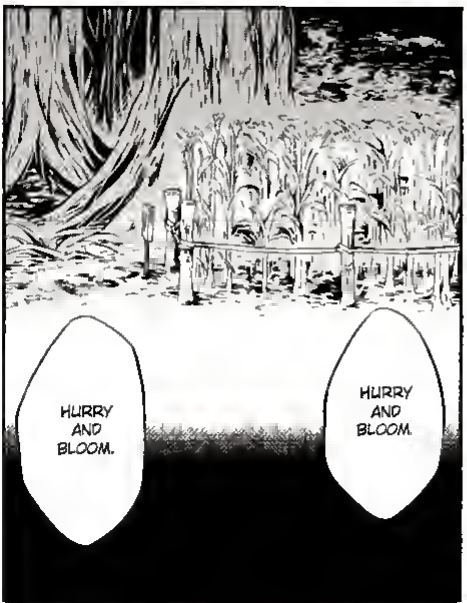
whoosh
rattle
rattle

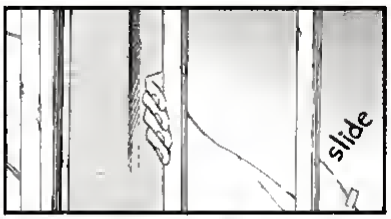
NN
shiver





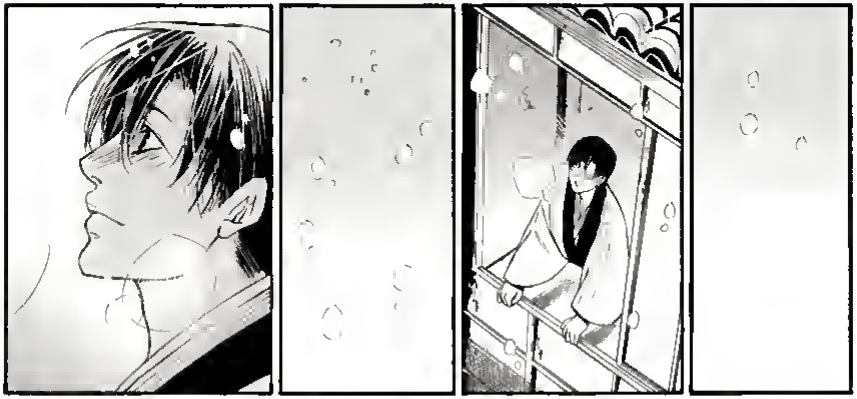



HURRY AND BLOOM.
HURRY AND BLOOM.


slide

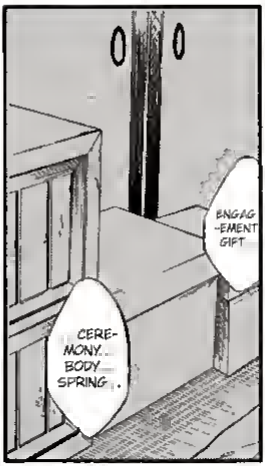
pant

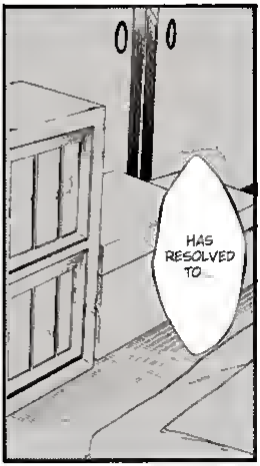
I WONDER IF...
MATSUOKA WILL BE HAPPY?

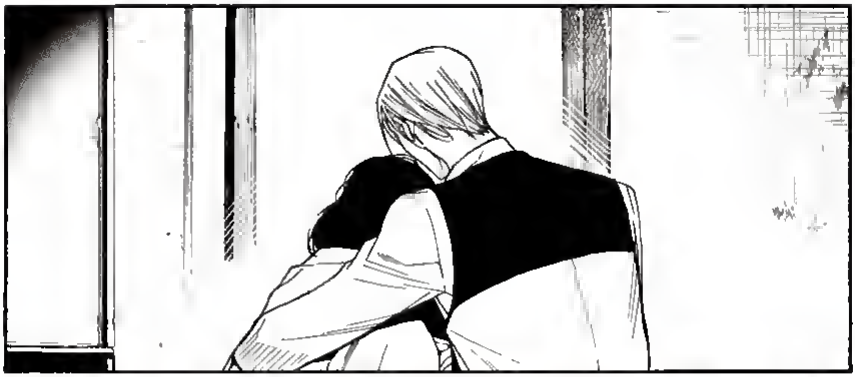


!!!
...

I heard a small voice.







And I turned eighteen.

The season is winter.